

RF 128.1202USN 10/10/05

- 6 -

In the abstract:

On a separate page following the claims, please add the  
5 following abstract:

## -- Abstract

The method is for the pre-treatment of chips that are fed to a  
sulphate cooking process. Through the addition of an acidic  
fluid to the steam treatment step, a very high ionic  
10 concentration of hydrogen ions is achieved. When the chips  
are subsequently formed into a slurry with a preferably  
sulphide-rich alkali cooking fluid,  $H_2S$  is formed locally in  
the chips, which gives a yield-increasing effect for the  
subsequent cooking step of 1-3%.--

15